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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY India

SUBJECT Situation in Northwest India

DATE: 25X1X6

INFO. [redacted]

ORIGIN [redacted] 25X1A6a

DIST. 6 February 1947

PAGES

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[redacted]

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[redacted] Number of villages in north central India visited in December 1946 displayed no signs of communal tension. The people of these villages, who are sugar cane and wheat farmers, were living together in amity, although from time to time they are subject to excursions and alarms from "goondas" (hoodlums) of one community or another. The people are far more concerned with their crops than they are with religious politics.

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Most tension in northern India is reported in the Punjab and the Northwest Frontier Provinces. It is rumored in the Punjab the Muslim League is thinking of establishing a dual government to function alongside the present government of the Province. This Muslim League government proposes to levy taxes, administer justice and establish police powers.

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3. A Muslim League leader of the Northwest Frontier Province, known as the Mullah of Manki, or Pir Sahib Mank Sherif, recently invited newsmen in New Delhi to interview him. He is a militant young man of 28 years who claims to have 1,500,000 followers in the tribal areas - or roughly one half the population of that area. He declared that, although Jinnah has not called upon him for any rifles yet, in the event of a holy war he could produce as many rifles as Jinnah required. He claimed that he alone was keeping the wild tribes of Swat, north of Fort Malakand, in check and was preventing them from crossing into British territory and killing Hindus in retaliation for the Bihar massacres.

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